

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this Amendment, claims 1-17, 19, 20-24, and 30-33 were pending and under consideration. With this Amendment, Claim 9, 14 and 16 have been amended. With this Amendment, Claims 1-8, 17, 19, 20-24, and 30-33 have been cancelled without prejudice against their reintroduction into this or one or more timely-filed related applications. Claims 18, 25, 26, 28 and 29 were previously cancelled. Thus, after entry of this Amendment, Claims 9-16 and 34-37 are pending and under consideration.

The Amendments of the Claims

The Amendment cancelled Claims 1-8, 17, 19, 20-24, and 30-33.

Claim 9 has been amended to include the limitations of Claim 1.

Claims 9 and 16 have been amended to clarify the configuration of the device.

Claim 14 has been amended to depend from Claim 9.

Support for these amendments can be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Rejection of Claim 1, 17, and 31 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph

Claims 1, 17, and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as allegedly being unclear. The rejection of these claims is moot in view of the cancellation of these claims. Claim 9 incorporates limitations of claim 1, and does not include conditional language.

Applicants appreciate the indication by the Examiner that Claims 9-13 and 34-37 contain allowable subject matter.

Claim 9 as amended herein now recites allowable subject matter, and the rejection of Claim 9 should therefore be withdrawn. Claims 14-16, which depend from Claim 9, should also be allowable.

Conclusion

Applicant submits that Claims 9-16 and 34-37 satisfy all of the statutory requirements for patentability and are in condition for allowance. An early notification of the same is kindly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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